

On-line appendix**Table 1A.** American College of Chest Physicians (ACCP) updated classification scheme for grading evidence and recommendations in clinical guidelines.

Strength of recommendation	Format (New wording)	interpretation	Prior designation
Strong recommendation for intervention	We recommend...	The desirable consequences clearly outweigh the undesirable consequences in most settings	Grade 1
Strong recommendation against intervention	We recommend not...	The undesirable consequences clearly outweigh the desirable consequences in most settings	Grade 1
Weak recommendation for intervention	We suggest...	The desirable consequences probably outweigh the undesirable consequences in most settings	Grade 2
Weak recommendation against intervention	We suggest not...	The undesirable consequences probably outweigh the desirable consequences in most settings or when the balance between desirable and undesirable consequences is closely balanced or uncertain	Grade 2
Ungraded consensus based statement	We suggest...	The desirable consequences probably outweigh the undesirable consequences in most settings, but there is little evidence	
Evidence Strength	Format (New wording)	Methodological quality of supporting evidence	Prior designation
High	High quality evidence	RCTs without important limitations or overwhelming evidence from observational studies ¹	A
Moderate	moderate-quality evidence	RCTs with important limitations or exceptionally strong evidence from observational studies	B
Low or very low	low-quality or very low quality evidence	Observational studies or case series	C

RCT, randomized controlled trial.

Source: Guyatt G, Gutterman D, Baumann MH, et al. Grading strength of recommendations and quality of evidence in clinical guidelines; report from an American College of Chest Physicians task force. *Chest*. 2006;129:174–181.

Diekemper RL, Patel S, Mette SA, Ornelas J, Ouellette DR, Casey KR. Making the GRADE: CHEST Updates Its Methodology. *Chest*. 2018;153(3):756-759. doi:10.1016/j.chest.2016.04.018